

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
WESTERN DIVISION

MICHAEL P. and SHELLIE GILMOR,)
et al.,)

Plaintiffs,)

vs.)

PREFERRED CREDIT CORP., et al.,)

Defendants.)

Case No. 10-0189-CV-W-ODS

SCHEDULING AND TRIAL ORDER

On October 22, 2010, the parties filed their jointly proposed scheduling order/discovery plan. They have agreed on some matters and disagreed on others. The Court has endeavored to resolve the areas of disagreement.

In addition, the parties should note that the Court has not adopted all of their agreed deadlines. The parties propose that discovery end in January 2013 and that the trial take place sometime in the second half of 2013. The Court finds this proposal to be unacceptable. The case has been languishing for far too long. Such a schedule might – *might* – be acceptable if the case had just been filed, but it has been pending for many years. The Court expects a final resolution much sooner than is reflected in the parties' submission, and the parties should plan accordingly.

Pursuant to Rules 16(b) and 26(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and upon consideration of the parties' views in the matter, the following schedule is hereby established:

1. Any motion to join additional parties shall be filed on or before January 15, 2011.
2. Any motion to amend the pleadings shall be filed on or before January 15, 2011.
3. The plaintiffs shall designate any expert witnesses it intends to call at trial on or before August 12, 2011, and the defendants shall designate any expert witnesses it intends to call at trial on or before September 30, 2011. This paragraph applies to all

witnesses from whom expert opinions will be elicited, regardless of whether or not the witness was specially retained to provide trial testimony.

4. All discovery disputes shall be raised with the Court on or before December 30, 2011.

5. All pretrial discovery authorized by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure shall be completed on or before December 30, 2011. This means that all discovery shall be completed, not simply submitted, on the date specified by this paragraph. Accordingly, all discovery requests and depositions shall be submitted and/or scheduled prior to the date specified in this paragraph and shall allow sufficient time for completion within the time specified by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Local Court Rules, and/or orders of this Court. The Court reserves the right to exercise control over the taking of depositions.

6. Along with each party's designation of expert witnesses, each party shall provide the other parties with an affidavit from each expert witness designated pursuant to paragraph 3 above. See FRCP 26(a)(2)(B). The affidavit shall include a complete statement of all opinions to be expressed and the basis and reasons therefor, the data or other information considered by the witness in forming the opinions, any exhibits to be used as a summary of or support for the opinions, the qualifications of the witness (including a list of all publications authored by the witness within the preceding ten years), the compensation to be paid for the study and testimony, and a listing of any other cases in which the witness has testified as an expert at trial or by deposition within the preceding four years. The expert's testimony will be limited to opinions and information contained in the report and in any depositions that might be taken.

7. The plaintiffs are limited to sixty (60) depositions. The defendants, collectively, are limited to sixty (60) depositions. There will be no limit on the number of requests for admission. No more than twenty-five (25) interrogatories may be directed to any defendant.

8. All parties must identify business records they intend to "self-authenticate" pursuant to Federal Rules of Evidence 803(6), 902(11) and 902(12) on or before September 30, 2011. A Certificate of Service signifying compliance shall be filed with the Court.

9. All motions to (a) strike expert designations, (b) preclude expert testimony premised on Daubert v. Merrill Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc., 509 U.S. 579 (1993), or (c) decertify the class in whole or in part shall be filed on or before February 1, 2012. The deadline for filing motions in limine does not apply to these motions. Failure to file a Daubert motion prior to this deadline will constitute a waiver of any arguments based on Daubert.

10. All dispositive motions, except those under FRCP 12(h)(2) or (3), shall be filed on or before February 1, 2012. All dispositive motions shall have a separate section wherein each statement of fact is individually numbered so that any party opposing such motion may refer specifically to a genuine issue of material fact. Suggestions in opposition to a dispositive motion shall begin with a concise listing of material facts as to which the party contends a genuine dispute exists. All motions for summary judgment shall comply with Local Rule 56.1. The non-moving party shall have twenty-one (21) days to respond to the motion for summary judgment.

11. All motions for extension of time pursuant to FRCP 6(b) or FRCP 31, 33, 34 and 36 must state:

- a. The date when the pleading, response or other action is/was first due;
- b. The number of previous extensions and the date the last extension expires;
- c. The cause for the requested extension, including a statement as to why the action due has not been completed in the allotted time; and
- d. Whether the requested extension is approved or opposed by opposing counsel (agreement by counsel to a requested extension is not binding on the Court).

12. A final pretrial conference in this case will be held at 10:00 a.m. on July 12, 2012, at the United States Courthouse in Kansas City, Missouri. Lead trial counsel shall participate in this conference. The agenda for this conference will include:

- a. Identification of facts not in dispute to which the parties will stipulate, in order to save trial time;
- b. Identification of legal and factual issues to be tried;

- c. Estimate length of trial;
- d. Determine trial schedule (hours of day - days of week - interruptions for other commitments, holidays, etc.);
- e. Explain voir dire procedure;
- f. Discuss the size of panel, number of strikes (three (3) each side - 28 U.S.C. § 1870) and need for additional jurors. (See Rules 47 and 48 FRCP);
- g. Remind counsel that there will be a recess while they exercise their peremptory challenges. Each side to have up to fifteen (15) minutes to make their strikes;
- h. Ask if counsel wish to have witnesses excluded;
- i. Ask if counsel wish to have anyone assist at counsel table;
- j. Ascertain need for special equipment such as projector, x-ray view box, etc. and advise counsel of availability of needed equipment;
- k. Establish order of trial if multiple parties;
- l. Discussion of any legal questions which must be resolved prior to trial;
- m. Discussion of any suggestions by counsel to simplify and expedite the trial;
- n. Disposition of pending motions; and
- o. Referral of case for mediation and settlement negotiations.

13. This case is scheduled for a jury trial, commencing at **8:00 a.m.** on August 13, 2012, at the United States Courthouse in Kansas City, Missouri.

14. The following documents shall be filed prior to the pretrial conference:

- a. Motions in limine shall be filed at least ten (10) working days prior to the pretrial conference. Responses to motions in limine shall be filed at least three (3) working days prior to the pretrial conference.
- b. At least three (3) working days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held, the parties shall file a stipulation of any uncontroverted

facts. If no stipulated facts can be agreed upon, including facts related to the Court's subject matter or personal jurisdiction, the parties shall file a joint statement to that effect. Notwithstanding the fact that the time for discovery will have closed, a request to stipulate, if preserved in the record, will constitute a request for admission under FRCP 36 and failure to stipulate may be subject to sanctions under FRCP 37(c).

- c. At least three (3) working days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held, the parties shall file a stipulation as to the foundation for the admissibility of evidence (specifically, identification and authenticity), when the foundation for the exhibit is not to be contested. Notwithstanding the fact that the time for discovery will have closed, a request to stipulate, if preserved in the record, will constitute a request for admission under FRCP 36 and failure to stipulate may be subject to sanctions under FRCP 37(c).
- d. At least three (3) working days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held, the parties shall file a stipulation as to the *admissibility* of evidence when the admissibility of an exhibit is not to be contested.
- e. Pursuant to Local Rule 39.1, at least three (3) working days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held each party shall file and serve a list of all witnesses who may be called at trial. If a witness is not listed by a party, that witness will not be permitted to testify absent leave of Court and then only for the purpose of unanticipated rebuttal or impeachment. After the time for filing lists of witnesses has expired, no supplemental or amended list will be filed without leave of Court and for good cause.
- f. Pursuant to Local Rule 39.1, at least three (3) working days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held each party will file and serve a list of all exhibits which may be offered at trial, with said list being prepared on a form provided by the United States District Clerk's Office. Each exhibit will be designated as either "Plaintiff's" or "Defendant's," numbered with an Arabic numeral and described following the enumeration. If an exhibit consists of more than one (1) page or part, the number of pages or parts shall be included in the description. The exhibit number must be marked on each exhibit at the time of listing. It is not necessary to list exhibits to be used only for impeachment or rebuttal purposes. Except by leave of Court for good cause, no exhibit will be received in evidence which is not listed by the counsel offering the exhibit. After the time for filing lists of exhibits has expired, no supplemental or amended list of exhibits will be filed without leave of Court for good cause.

- g. Ten (10) working days before the date the pretrial conference is to be held, each party asserting an affirmative claim or claims for relief (plaintiff, third-party plaintiff, counterclaiming defendant, cross-claiming defendant, etc.) shall file and serve a designation, by page and line number, of any deposition testimony to be offered in evidence as a part of that party's case.
 - h. At least seven (7) working days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held, each party defending against an affirmative claim for relief shall file and serve:
 - i. Any objections to proposed deposition testimony designated by any other party; the Court will not consider objections to deposition designations unless counsel have met and conferred in a good faith effort to settle the objections;
 - ii. A designation, by page and line number, of any deposition testimony to be offered as cross-examination to deposition testimony designated by other parties; and
 - iii. A designation, by page and line number, of any deposition testimony to be offered in evidence as part of that party's case-in-chief in connection with such defense.
 - i. At least three (3) working days before the date of the pretrial conference, each party asserting an affirmative claim or claims for relief shall file and serve:
 - i. Any objections to proposed deposition testimony designated by any other party; the Court will not consider objections to deposition designations unless counsel have met and conferred in a good faith effort to settle the objections; and
 - ii. A designation, by page and line number, of any deposition testimony to be offered as cross-examination to deposition testimony designated by other parties.
15. The following documents shall be filed prior to trial:
- a. Ten (10) working days prior to trial, the parties shall jointly submit an original (without sources) and an annotated (with sources) set of proposed jury instructions. Proposed annotated instructions shall reflect the authorities upon which the instruction is based and should be taken from or drawn in the manner of *Model Civil Jury Instructions for the District of Courts of the Eighth Circuit and/or Missouri*

Approved Instructions (MAI) where available and appropriate. All instructions shall be designated as "Instruction No. ____." The annotated set shall also indicate which party proposed the instruction. Parties should also e-mail their original instructions to the Courtroom Deputy Clerk at eva_will-fees@mow.uscourts.gov. The instructions should be typed in WordPerfect if possible.

The Court prefers to receive joint instructions from the parties. Separate instructions are appropriate only when the parties cannot agree upon a specific instruction. In that instance, counsel shall state in writing the reason for the objection with authority cited as well as an alternative instruction. The deadline for submitting objections and alternative proposed instructions is five (5) working days prior to the date of trial.

- b. At least five (5) working days prior to the date of trial, counsel for each party may file a trial brief stating the factual and legal contentions for the party for whom the trial brief is filed.
- c. At least ten (10) working days prior to the date of trial, counsel for each party is requested to file a list of questions or topics for voir dire examination desired to be propounded by the Court. Objections to opposing party's voir dire questions shall be filed at least five (5) working days prior to trial.

16. The Court may place time limits on opening statements, and direct and cross-examination of all witnesses. You should be prepared to support your representations as to the length of trial.

17. In order to ensure the efficient use of time during trial, the following rules of Court will be imposed:

- a. All legal issues must be raised in advance of trial by written motions and in accordance with the scheduling order of this Court;
- b. Motions will not be heard during trial without a strong showing that counsel could not, by due diligence, have raised them sooner;
- c. Testimony will not be interrupted to deal with evidentiary matters that could have been heard in advance of trial. The Court will consider those matters during recess, at noon break, or at the end of the day. Counsel should be prepared with written authority for their positions; and

- d. Witnesses who will be testifying from exhibits or about exhibits should review them immediately prior to their testimony.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Ortrie D. Smith
ORTRIE D. SMITH, JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DATE: November 5, 2010